

Office of National Drug Control Policy

Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse

Sacramento, California

Profile of Drug Indicators

June 2003



ONDCP Drug Policy Information Clearinghouse staff compiled this profile by using the most recent data available from open sources. The data presented are as accurate as the sources from which they were drawn. The information contained in this profile should not be used to rank or compare States or jurisdictions, due to differences in data collection and reporting methods.

Sacramento, California

The following profile contains information on demographics, political figures, programs, crime, drug use, drug trafficking, and enforcement statistics.

Demographics¹

- Population (2000 Census): 407,018
- Race/Ethnicity (2000 Census): 40.5% white; 15.0% black/African American; 0.8% American Indian/Alaskan Native; 16.4% Asian; 0.9% Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander; 0.4% some other race; 4.4% two or more races; 21.6% Hispanic/Latino origin (of any race)
- The city of Sacramento is located in Sacramento County.

Politics

- Mayor: Heather Fargo²
- City Council (Districts 1-8, respectively): Ray Tretheway, Sandy Sheedy, Steve Cohn, Jimmie Yee, Lauren Hammond, Dave Jones, Robbie Waters, Bonnie Pannell³
- City Manager: Robert P. Thomas⁴
- Sacramento Chief of Police: Albert Nájera⁵
- Sacramento County Sheriff: Lou Blanas⁶

Programs/Initiatives

- High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)⁷
Designated in 1999, the Central Valley California (CVC) HIDTA was established to reduce the manufacturing, trafficking, and distribution of methamphetamine, precursor chemicals, and other dangerous drugs by attacking and dismantling the large-scale and often violent organizations responsible. The CVC HIDTA is responsible for the following counties: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Tulare.
- Precursor/Vender Program (PVP)⁸
Developed in 2001 by the CVC HIDTA, the PVP provides education about methamphetamine production to retailers who sell non-regulated products that are often used by drug trafficking organizations to produce methamphetamine.
- Demand Treatment!⁹
In 2002, Sacramento County became a Join Together Demand Treatment! partner. As such, Join Together will provide Sacramento County with technical assistance, funding, and leadership development to help meet the treatment goals of the community.
- Project Help¹⁰
As Sacramento's first community-wide anti-drug coalition, Project Help is dedicated to creating a drug-free and alcohol-safe community. Some of the coalition's goals include the following: unite the community in its prevention, treatment and enforcement efforts; educate the community about substance abuse and its dangers; increase the safety of citizens by reducing alcohol and other drug abuse and related crime and violence; and improve coordination among public and private entities to address substance abuse in Sacramento County.

- Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities¹¹
The Sacramento County Prevention and Student Services Office provides technical assistance and training opportunities for educators and community members interested in preventing substance abuse and creating safe school environments.
- Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Proposition 36)
On November 7, 2000, California voters approved Proposition 36, which diverts most non-violent adult offenders who use or possess illegal drugs to treatment rather than incarceration.¹² To implement Proposition 36 in Sacramento County for FY 2001/2002, nearly \$6 million was made available to the county.¹³ The California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs is responsible for allocating the funds each year to county governments.¹⁴

Federal Funding

- Drug-Free Communities Support Program grantees in Sacramento:¹⁵
 - FY 2002: No grantees
 - FY 2001:
 - \$99,934 awarded to County of Sacramento for Oak Park Neighborhood Multi-Service Center
 - \$99,984 awarded to Project Help: Sacramento Mobilizing Against Substance Abuse
 - FY 2000: No grantees
 - FY 1999:
 - \$100,000 awarded to California Rural Indian Health Board
 - FY 1998:
 - \$98,263 awarded to People Reaching Out, Inc.
- Executive Office for Weed and Seed¹⁶
Sacramento has received Federal funding and has been officially recognized as a Weed and Seed site.
- No grantees in Sacramento were awarded funding as part of the FY 2002 Office of Justice Programs Drug Court Grant Program.¹⁷
- Sacramento did not receive any methamphetamine funding in 2002 from the Department of Justice's Office of Community Oriented Policing Services.¹⁸
- FY 2001 Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration discretionary funds awarded to Sacramento:¹⁹
 - Center for Mental Health Services
 - \$950,934 awarded to United Advocates for Children of California to establish and operate a national technical assistance center. The project period is 9/30/01-9/29/04.
 - \$100,000 awarded to the California State Department of Mental Health to evaluate and incorporate changes needed to the data systems. The project period is 9/30/01-9/29/04.
 - Center for Substance Abuse Prevention
 - \$237,193 awarded to La Familia Counseling Center, Inc. to implement a multi component environmentally-based intervention in two largely Mexican-American low-income neighborhood. The project period is 9/30/99-9/29/02.

- Center for Substance Abuse Treatment
 - \$50,000 awarded to California Association of Alcohol/Drug Program to present a conference on changing treatment systems, practices, standards, and guidelines. Project period is 6/01/01-2/28/03.
- FY 2001 Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services grant amounts received by Sacramento recipients:²⁰
 - \$38,583,430 in formula funds
 - \$579,685,114 in discretionary funds
- No grantees in Sacramento were awarded funding as part of the FY 2001 Housing and Urban Development Drug Elimination Grant.²¹

Crime and Drug-Related Crime

- In Sacramento, the number of murder offenses known to police increased from 31 during 1998 to 47 during 2002.²²

Number of Index Offenses Known to Police, Sacramento, 1998-2002

Offenses	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Murder	31	56	37	40	47
Forcible rape	141	143	147	169	184
Robbery	1,689	1,450	1,412	1,440	1,733
Aggravated assault	1,515	1,438	1,519	1,660	1,581
Burglary	6,495	4,805	4,661	5,068	5,065
Larceny/theft	15,725	14,761	14,690	15,977	15,542
Motor vehicle theft	6,003	4,460	4,870	6,337	6,664

- According to preliminary data for 2002, approximately 78% of adult male arrestees in Sacramento tested positive for illicit drugs at the time of arrest.²³

Percent Positive for Drugs, Adult Male Arrestees, Sacramento, 2002

Drug Type	Preliminary Data 2002
Powder cocaine	20.9%
Crack cocaine	20.9
Heroin	6.2
Marijuana	50.9
Methamphetamine	33.5
Any drug	78.7
Multiple drugs	31.3

- Approximately 61% of Sacramento adult male arrestees reported using marijuana in the past year. Among the male arrestees who reported past year use of marijuana, the average number of days the substance was used in the past month was 10.6 days.²⁴

Past Drug Use, Adult Male Arrestees, Sacramento, 2002

Use	Crack Cocaine	Powder Cocaine	Marijuana	Meth	Heroin
Past 7 days	12.5%	3.2%	45.2%	25.8%	4.9%
Past 30 days	14.7%	4.9%	53.1%	29.0%	5.9%
Past year	18.7%	10.3%	61.5%	33.6%	7.9%
Avg. # of days used in month	6.5	3.8	10.6	8.9	7.7

- There were 2,627 adult felony drug arrests in the city of Sacramento in 2001.²⁵

Adult Felony and Misdemeanor Drug Arrests, Sacramento, 2001

	Felony Drug Arrests	Misdemeanor Drug Arrests
Male	1,937	1,196
Female	690	529
Total	2,627	1,725

- There were 1,596 adult felony arrests involving narcotics in Sacramento County during 2001.²⁶

Adult Felony Arrests for Drug Violations, Sacramento County, 1997-2001

Offense Type	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Total felony drug arrests	5,792	5,842	5,561	5,525	5,263
Narcotics	1,261	1,452	1,411	1,617	1,596
Marijuana	420	477	464	464	418
Dangerous drugs	3,995	3,779	3,605	3,341	3,131
Other drugs	116	134	81	103	118

- During 2001, the DEA made 344 methamphetamine-related arrests in the CVC HIDTA region.²⁷

Number of DEA Arrests, CVC HIDTA Region, 2001

Drug	Arrests
Cocaine	49
Heroin	26
Marijuana	68
Methamphetamine	344

- Between 1980 and 2000, there was a 171% increase of drug arrest charges in Sacramento. Misdemeanor drug charges increased 178% and felony drug arrests increased 167% during this same time period.²⁸

Drugs

- Marijuana
Mexican marijuana is widely available and is the least expensive type of marijuana found in the area.²⁹

- **Methamphetamine**
The primary drug threat in the CVC HIDTA area is methamphetamine. The availability of pseudoephedrine tablets from Canada allows this threat to continue. Crystal methamphetamine (“ice”) production appears to be increasing in the area.³⁰
- **Club Drugs**
Ecstasy, gamma hydroxybutyrate (GHB) and steroids are gaining a user base through rave clubs and dance festivals in the CVC HIDTA region.³¹
- **Other Drugs**
A potent mix of methamphetamine and caffeine in the form of a pill has recently emerged in Sacramento. It is known as yaba (Thai for “crazy drug”). It is significantly more powerful and dangerous than Ecstasy.³²

Juveniles

- There were 94 juvenile drug arrests in the city of Sacramento during 2001.³³

Number of Juvenile Arrests, Sacramento, 2001

Type of Offense	Male	Female	Total
Homicide	3	0	3
Forcible rape	8	0	8
Robbery	75	15	90
Assault	122	27	149
Burglary	206	42	248
Theft	66	29	95
Motor vehicle theft	178	29	207
Drug	81	13	94
Other	150	35	185
Total	889	190	1,079

- In Sacramento County during 2001, there were 84 juvenile felony arrests for marijuana, 53 juvenile felony arrests for “dangerous drugs,” and 5 juvenile felony arrests for other drug violations.³⁴
- From 1996 to 2000, the number of juvenile felony drug arrests decreased from 234 in 1996 to 232 in 2000.³⁵

Number of Juvenile Felony Drug Arrests, Sacramento County, 1996-2000

Offense	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Narcotics	108	83	69	78	68
Marijuana	69	57	79	91	83
Dangerous drugs	55	76	77	59	79
Other	2	3	2	2	2
Total felony drug arrests	234	219	227	230	232

- There were 366 juvenile misdemeanor drug arrests in Sacramento County during 2001 that involved marijuana.³⁶

Number of Juvenile Misdemeanor Drug-Related Arrests, Sacramento County, 1996-2001

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Marijuana	289	251	305	380	410	366
Other drugs	62	61	72	57	60	70
Glue sniffing	11	1	0	0	4	0

Enforcement

- As of October 2001, there were 976 law enforcement personnel with the Sacramento Police Department.³⁷
- CVC HIDTA initiatives include the following:³⁸
 - Sacramento Area Intelligence/Narcotics Task Force (SAINT): The purpose of this initiative is to dismantle drug trafficking organizations in Sacramento County.
 - Financial Investigations Task Force: This sub-initiative, which began operating in 2001, investigates money laundering activities by drug trafficking organizations in the CVC HIDTA region.
 - Precursor/Vendor Task Force: The purpose of this task force is to identify legal chemical vendors and obtain their assistance in collecting information regarding certain chemical sales at their businesses.

Trafficking and Seizures

- In August 2002, Federal agents arrested ten individuals in Sacramento for smuggling 75,000 yaba pills into the area from Thailand.³⁹
- During 2001, more than 6,000 kilograms of methamphetamine were seized by law enforcement agencies in the CVC HIDTA region.⁴⁰

Amount of Drugs Seized, CVC HIDTA Region, 2001

Drug	Amount Seized (in kilograms)
Cocaine	2,470.85
Heroin	1,116.7
Marijuana	153,371.15
Methamphetamine	6,146.45

- There were 36 methamphetamine labs seized in Sacramento County during 1999.⁴¹

Courts

- Drug Courts⁴²
As of May 22, 2003, there was one drug court that has been operating for over two years, one that was recently implemented, and one that was being planned in Sacramento.

Corrections

- The imprisonment rate for all drug offenses in Sacramento between 1995-1999 was 68.5. The low-level drug possession imprisonment rate between 1995-1999 in Sacramento was 31.7.⁴³

Consequences of Use

- During 2000, the annual drug abuse death rate in Sacramento was 7.4.⁴⁴
- From 1999-2000 there was an average of 97 drug-related deaths in Sacramento County.⁴⁵

Treatment

- As of January 2003, there were 4,721 calls made to substance abuse referral services in Sacramento.⁴⁶
- As of January 2003, there were 7,203 people in treatment and an average of 368 people waiting for treatment in Sacramento
- According to the CVC HIDTA, there were nearly 8,700 methamphetamine addicts in the CVC HIDTA region seeking treatment.⁴⁷

Number of Addicts Seeking Treatment, CVC HIDTA Region, 2001

Drug	Addicts Seeking Treatment
Cocaine	2,586
Heroin	8,896
Marijuana	3,646
Methamphetamine	8,675

- In 1999, there were 5,920 adult admissions and 152 juvenile admissions to drug/alcohol treatment in Sacramento County.⁴⁸

Admissions to Drug/Alcohol Treatment, Sacramento County, 1994-1999

Year	Juvenile	Adult
1994	163	6,749
1995	102	6,336
1996	89	5,239
1997	99	4,472
1998	113	4,758
1999	152	5,920

Sources

¹ U.S. Census Bureau Web site: <http://www.census.gov>

² City of Sacramento Mayor's Web site: <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/mayor/>

³ Sacramento City Council Web site: <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/council/index.html>

⁴ Sacramento City Manager Web site: <http://www.sacto.org/cityman/manager.html>

⁵ Sacramento Police Department Web site: <http://www.sacpd.org/>

⁶ Sacramento Sheriffs Department Web site: <http://www.sacsheriff.com/index.cfm>

⁷ Office of National Drug Control Policy, Central Valley California High intensity Drug Trafficking Area Web site: http://www.whitehousedrugpolicy.gov/hidta/frames_centvalley.html

⁸ Office of National Drug Control Policy, *National Drug Control Strategy: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program Annual Report*, December 2002

⁹ Join Together Online, Demand Treatment! Partners:
<http://www.jointogether.org/sa/action/dt/program/partners/>

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- ¹⁰ Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services, Alcohol and Drug Services, Project Help Brochure: http://www.sacdhhs.com/download/pdf/ads_pjthelp.pdf
- ¹¹ Sacramento County Department of Education: <http://fmpro.scoe.net/programs/FMPro?-db=programs.fp5&-format=search%5fresults.html&-lay=entry%20layout&-sortfield=Program%20Title&-max=2147483647&-recid=82&-findall=>
- ¹² California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Proposition 36) Web site: <http://www.adp.cahwnet.gov/SACPA/prop36.shtml>
- ¹³ California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, *Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000: Analysis of Plans from the 59 Counties*, September, 2001: <http://www.adp.cahwnet.gov/SACPA/pdf/SACPA-AnalysisOf58CountyPlans.pdf>
- ¹⁴ California Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act of 2000 (Proposition 36) Web site: <http://www.adp.cahwnet.gov/SACPA/prop36.shtml>
- ¹⁵ Drug Free Communities Support Program Web site, California section: <http://ojidp.ncjrs.org/dfcs/states/ca.html>
- ¹⁶ Executive Office for Weed and Seed Data Center Web site, California section: <http://www.weedandseeddatacenter.org/california.html>
- ¹⁷ Office of Justice Programs FY 2002 Drug Court Grants: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/grant/DrugCourts/02DCgrants.htm>
- ¹⁸ Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, *COPS Methamphetamine Grant Announcement*, November 14, 2002: http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/GrantAnnounce/meth_grantees.pdf
- ¹⁹ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration Discretionary Grant Funding, California section: <http://samhsa.gov/funding/content/states01/ca.htm>
- ²⁰ Office of Justice Programs and Community Oriented Policing Services funding: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/fy2001grants/map/ca.htm>
- ²¹ Department of Housing and Urban Development, *FY 2001 Federally Assisted Low Income Housing Drug Elimination Grants: Detailed Congressional Report*: <http://www.hud.gov/content/releases/drugelimination.pdf>
- ²² Sacramento Police Department, Annual Crime Statistics, 1994-2002: <http://www.sacpd.org/crimestats.htm>
- ²³ National Institute of Justice, *Preliminary Data on Drug Use & Related Matters Among Adult Arrestees & Juvenile Detainee*, 2002, 2003: http://www.adam-nij.net/files/2002_Preliminary_Data.pdf
- ²⁴ Ibid.
- ²⁵ California Department of Justice, *California Criminal Justice Profile, 2001*: http://justice.hdcdojnet.state.ca.us/cjsc_stats/prof01/index.htm
- ²⁶ Ibid.
- ²⁷ Office of National Drug Control Policy, *National Drug Control Strategy: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program Annual Report*, December 2002
- ²⁸ Center for Juvenile and Criminal Justice, *Drug Use and Justice 2002: An Examination of California Drug Policy Enforcement*, December 2002: <http://www.cjcj.org/pdf/cadrug2002.pdf>
- ²⁹ National Drug Intelligence Center, *California Central District Drug Threat Assessment*, May 2001: <http://www.usdoj.gov/ndic/pubs/668/668p.pdf>
- ³⁰ Office of National Drug Control Policy, *National Drug Control Strategy: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program Annual Report*, December 2002
- ³¹ Ibid.
- ³² *North County Times*, "New Drug Seeping Into California Communities," September 22, 2002: <http://www.nctimes.net/news/2002/20020922/53808.html>
- ³³ California Department of Justice, *California Criminal Justice Profile, 2001*: http://justice.hdcdojnet.state.ca.us/cjsc_stats/prof01/index.htm
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- ³⁵ Ibid.
- ³⁶ Ibid.
- ³⁷ Federal Bureau of Investigation, *Crime in the United States, 2001*, October 2002: <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/01cius.htm>
- ³⁸ Office of National Drug Control Policy, *National Drug Control Strategy: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program Annual Report*, December 2002

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- ³⁹ North County Times, *New Drug Seeping Into California Communities*, September 22, 2002: <http://www.nctimes.net/news/2002/20020922/53808.html>
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- ⁴⁶ Demand Treatment, Sacramento County Strategy: http://www.jointogether.org/sa/files/pdf/strat_sacramento.pdf
- ⁴⁷ Office of National Drug Control Policy, *National Drug Control Strategy: High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Program Annual Report*, December 2002
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